

BIOECONOMY FOR CHILDREN OF LOWER SECONDARY EDUCATION



#2 NEWSLETTER OF THE RECIBIOS PROJECT

FEBRUARY, 2024, VERSION 1

OUR 2ND NEWSLETTER IS OUT!

WE WANT TO SHARE WITH YOU OUR PROGRESS DURING THE 1ST YEAR OF IMPLEMENTATION OF RECIBIOS!

A small reminder about the objectives of our project: Imagine a classroom where fruit peels and other organic waste aren't just thrown away but transformed into valuable, eco-friendly materials. This is the vision of RECIBIOS, an ambitious Erasmus+ project designed to immerse lower secondary students in the transformative world of bioeconomy and the circular economy. By engaging students in creating biodegradable materials, RECIBIOS aims to demystify and illuminate these advanced concepts, inspiring students to pursue future professions where sustainability is key.

Understanding materials—how they are made, used, and disposed of—is a valuable skill in a world that's shifting unsustainable practices. RECIBIOS introduces students to an exciting paradigm shift: moving from the traditional cycle of make-use-waste to circular flows where materials are inherently sustainable and biodegradable. This project is not just about learning new concepts; it's about experiencing the sometimes messy yet beautiful reality of turning theoretical knowledge into practical, tangible results.



TESTING OF RECIBIOS BY THE STUDENTS OF THE RHIZO SCHOOL IN BELGIUM!

The Preliminary version of our new innovative educational material was tested in the RHIZO OLV Vlaanderen Lyceum, partner of RECIBIOS from Belgium and Lead Partner of the project. The testing phase was based on the following methodology:



Through interactive activities and challenged-based learning, students were engaged in STEM-related activities in order to **UNDERSTAND** the properties of biomaterials and be in position to identify which product or object is compostable or not. The **DEFINE** phase include challenge-based activities where students experimented with the properties of different materials and planned the creation of new products based on compostable materials. During the **MAKE** part, students used the equipment of the school and physically engaged in activities in order to create new bio-materials out of waste, inside the classroom. The final **RELEASE** phase of the testing included the prototyping phase and the design and planning of the creation of new products out of the materials that were created.

The testing phase of RECIBIOS in Belgium help the partnership to identify gaps, gather feedback, and obtain valuable input for the adaptation and modification of the educational program, in order to ensure high quality and applicability in different contexts upon its finalization.

During 2025, the course will be tested in the LAPPEION Junior High School of Naousa, gather feedback, and finalize it until the end of the year.



STUDENTS EXCHANGE BETWEEN GREECE AND BELGIUM!



6 students (3 girls and 3 boys) accompanied by 2 teachers from the 1st Junior High School of Naousa "LAPPEION" visited their peers in the RHIZO OLV Vlaanderen Lyceum in Belgium. The exchange was organized between 1-6 of December 2024 and included many activities, as study visits, shared classes, educational courses and common activities between both schools. It was a valuable opportunity for students in order to share experiences, provide insights about the testing of RECIBIOS inside classroom and learn to collaborate and communicate in an international environment. Additionally, teachers had the opportunity to exchange insights about differences of educational methodologies between both countries, share best practices, and coordinate the effective implementation of RECIBIOS.

The activities of the exchange included study visits to Namur, Bruges, and Brussels, collaborative experimentation of biodegradable recipes between students, informal training of the Greek teachers for the testing of RECIBIOS, and common dinners between participants. Finally, the Greek students were hosted by the families of the students in Kortrijk, which allowed them to witness everyday life in Belgium.



OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS.

-We created synergies with other initiatives and projects related to STEM, bioeconomy and circular economy.
-We presented RECIBIOS in the frame of the activities organized for the "BEE-Bioeconomy Entrepreneurship Education in upper secondary education" Erasmus+ project.

OUR NEXT STEPS.

-Testing of our educational resource in the LAPEEION Junior High School of Naoussa
-Organization of teacher trainings for the effective teaching of RECIBIOS bioeconomy course inside classroom
-Finalization of the Bioeconomy Recipe Bioeconomy Catalogue
-Finalization of the Challenge-based bioeconomy course for lower secondary education
-Networking and sharing of our resources with other schools, NGOs, and bioeconomy experts across Europe
-Organization of a final event in Belgium.

OUR PARTNERSHIP!



RHIZO OLV Vlaanderen Lyceum, Belgium: Our lead partner, RHIZO is a secondary school specializing in high-quality STEM education. They will leverage this expertise to co-create the RECIBIOS STEM-project with staff and students to ensure the content is both engaging and effective.



Lappeio 1st Gymnasio of Naoussa, Greece: With a strong focus on environmental education, Lappeio will be pivotal in executing the innovative curriculum and hosting enriching exchange experiences.



EduQuest, Greece: Specializing in bridging the gap between rural educational needs and contemporary scientific approaches, EduQuest will enhance the project's reach and impact, especially in underserved areas.



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Enriching lives, opening minds.

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